Applicants also note objections made by the Draftsperson apparently based upon photocopy mistakes. However, before submitting clean copies of the drawings, Applicants request clarification of the Draftsperson's objections under 37 C.F.R. 1.84(l) and (m) for figures 4, 5A, 5B, and 7A-16. Each of these drawings was previously submitted and shown in granted U.S. Patents 5,539,775 to Tuttle et al. (Mar. 17, 1993) and 5,825,806 to Tuttle et al. (Oct. 20, 1998). As these drawings were previously accepted without objection, Applicants request the figures be accepted or that the objections be further clarified by the draftsperson.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 29-32 as follows:

~~29.~~ (Amended) A communication system, comprising:

an interrogator adapted to produce and transmit a spread spectrum signal which includes an original data signal component; and

a plurality of receiver systems [connected] adapted to connect to articles remote from the interrogator, each receiver system comprising:

receiving and processing circuitry adapted to receive the transmitted spread spectrum signal and in response thereto to produce [a data signal indicative of the original data signal component] an extracted data signal;

signal production circuitry adapted to receive the extracted data signal and selectively produce a return signal including information regarding ~~the~~ an article; and

transmitting circuitry adapted to transmit the return signal to the interrogator.

30. (Amended) The communication system of claim 29, wherein the interrogator is adapted to selectively [addresses] address a particular one of the receiver systems by providing the original data signal component with a particular characteristic, and wherein the signal production circuitry of a particular one of the receiver systems [produces] is adapted to produce the return signal only when the particular characteristic is present in the ~~data signal~~ original data signal component.

31. (Amended) The communication system of claim 29, wherein the interrogator is adapted to selectively [addresses] address different ones of the receiver systems.

32. (Amended) The communication system of claim 29, further comprising an additional interrogator and circuitry [that determines] adapted to determine ~~the~~ a location of a particular one of the receiver systems by triangulation between the interrogator, the additional interrogator, and the particular one of the receiver systems.

Please add claims 34-45 as follows:

34. The communication system of claim 29, wherein the transmitted spread spectrum signal further includes a pseudo noise signal component and the receiving and processing circuitry is further adapted to produce a synthesized pseudo noise signal corresponding to the pseudo noise signal component of the ~~received~~ transmitted spread spectrum signal.

35. The communication system of claim 29, wherein the receiving and processing circuitry is further adapted to extract a clock waveform from the received spread spectrum signal, the extracted clock waveform corresponding to the clock frequency of the pseudo noise signal component.

36. The communication system of claim 35, wherein the transmitting circuitry is further adapted to multiply the extracted clock waveform by a return data packet waveform.

37. The communication system of claim 29, further comprising an interrogator transmission power less than or equal to one Watt.

38. A communication system, comprising:

an interrogator adapted to produce and transmit a spread spectrum signal comprising a pseudo noise signal component; and

at least one receiver system adapted to connect to an article remote from the interrogator, the at least one receiver system comprising:

receiving and processing circuitry adapted to receive the transmitted spread spectrum signal and in response thereto to produce a synthesized pseudo noise signal corresponding to the pseudo noise signal component of the ~~received~~ transmitted spread spectrum signal;

signal production circuitry adapted to receive the transmitted spread spectrum signal and selectively produce a return signal comprising information regarding the article; and

transmitting circuitry adapted to transmit the return signal to the interrogator.

39. The communication system of claim 38, wherein the receiving and processing circuitry is further adapted to extract a clock waveform from the ~~received~~ transmitted spread spectrum signal, the extracted clock waveform corresponding to ~~the~~ a clock frequency of the pseudo noise signal component.

40. The communication system of claim 39, wherein the transmitting circuitry is further adapted to multiply the extracted clock waveform by a return data packet waveform.

41. The communication system of claim 38, wherein the interrogator is adapted to transmit at a transmission power less than or equal to one Watt.

42. The communication system of claim 38, wherein the receiving and processing circuitry is further adapted to compare the ~~received~~ transmitted spread spectrum signal with the synthesized pseudo noise signal and produce a comparison waveform.

14 ~~43~~. The communication system of claim ~~42~~ 13, wherein the receiving and processing circuitry is further adapted to analyze the comparison waveform and responsively synchronize the receiving and processing circuitry with the ~~received~~ transmitted spread spectrum signal.

15 ~~44~~. A communication system, comprising:

an interrogator adapted to produce and transmit a spread spectrum signal comprising a pseudo noise signal component; and

at least one receiver system adapted to connect to an article remote from the interrogator and comprising:

receiving and processing circuitry adapted to receive the transmitted spread spectrum signal and in response thereto to produce a clock waveform corresponding to ~~the~~ a clock frequency of the pseudo noise signal component of the ~~received~~ transmitted spread spectrum signal;

signal production circuitry adapted to receive the transmitted spread spectrum signal and selectively produce a return signal comprising information regarding the article; and

transmitting circuitry adapted to transmit the return signal to the interrogator.

16 ~~45~~. The communication system of claim ~~44~~ 15, wherein the transmitting circuitry is further adapted to multiply the ~~extracted~~ clock waveform by a return data packet waveform.